

Ten Riddles

Short settings of English folk verse

for high voice and piano

by

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Ten Riddles

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1 Snowflake and Sun Lento

Voice

White bird

1

pp

And. - - - - - III sost. al fine

fea ther-less flew from Pa - - ra-dise,

5

pitched on the cas-tle wall. A - long came

8

V. 

Lord Land - less and took it up hand - less

11

V. 

and rode a-way horse - less to the king's

13

V. 

white, white hall.

15

[fine]

2 Clouds *Molto vivace*

White sheep, white sheep, on a blue hill, When the wind stops, you all stand still.

19

f

When the wind blows, you run a-way slow, White sheep, white sheep,

23

where do you go, white sheep?

27

ffz

3 A peacock's tail *Lento e dolce*

p

v. What is it more eyes doth wear than for - ty men with -

32

pp

v. in the land, Which glis - ter as the crys - tal clear A-gainst the sun,

34

v. when they do stand?

37

4 A fish in the sea

♩ = 88

Al - though it's cold no clothes I wear, Frost and snow I

39

do not fear, I have no use for hose or shoes Al-though I

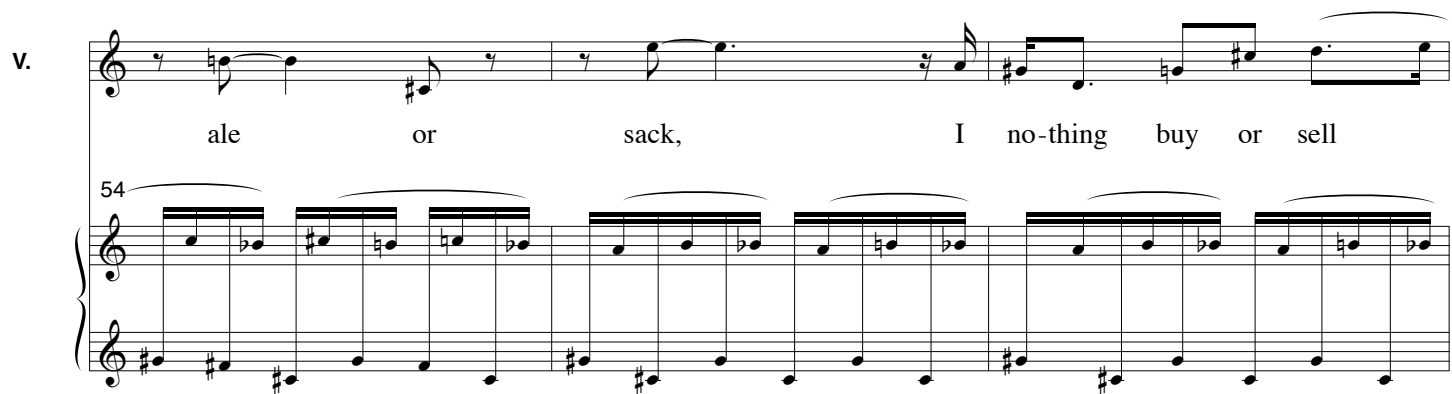
42

tra - vel far and near.

46

All I eat comes free to me, I need no ci-der,

50

V. 

ale or sack, I no-thing buy or sell

54

V. 

or lack.

57

V. 

60

5 A hen's egg *largo*

In mar-ble halls as white as milk,

62 *pp*

Lined witha skin as soft as silk, With - in a foun-tain crys-tal clear,

69

A gol-den ap-ple doth ap - pear, a gol - den ap - ple doth ap - pear. No

74

doors there are to this strong-hold, Yet thieves break in and steal the gold.

79

83

crescendo

86

f

This musical score consists of two systems of piano music. The first system, starting at measure 83, features a melody in the right hand with eighth and sixteenth notes, and a bass line in the left hand with similar rhythmic values. A *crescendo* marking is placed over the first two measures. Trills are indicated by a '3' over a bracket in measures 84 and 85. The second system, starting at measure 86, begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The right hand continues with a melodic line, while the left hand plays a more active, rhythmic accompaniment. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs in both staves.

6 A butterfly moderato assai

I was round and small like a pearl, Then

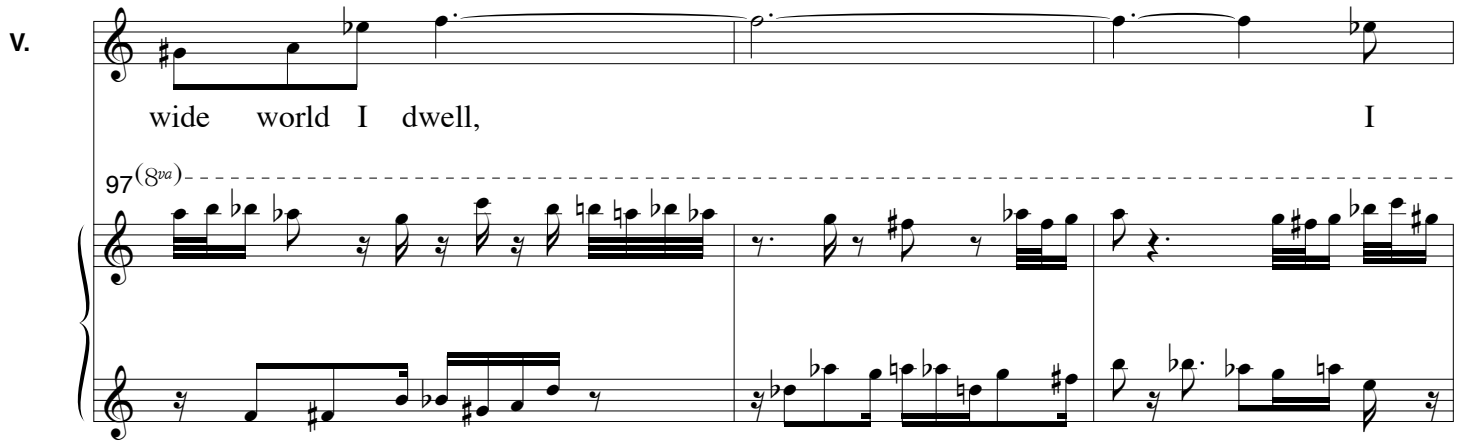
88 *p* *8va*

long and slender, as brave as an earl.

91 *8va*

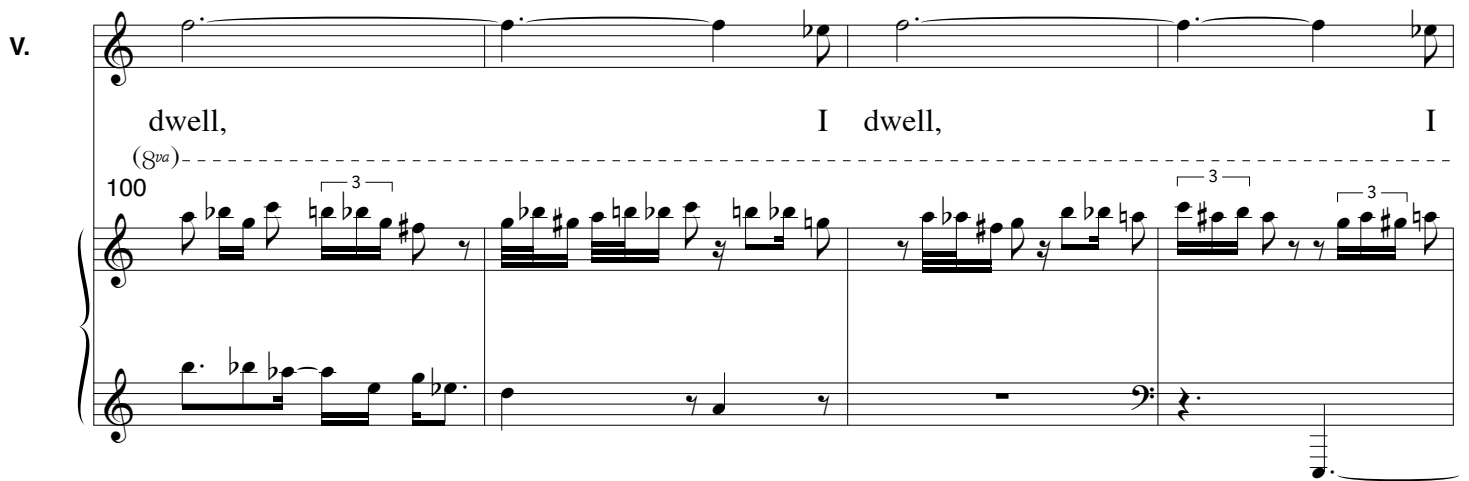
Since like a her-mit I lived in a cell And now like a rogue in the

94 *8va*

v. 

wide world I dwell, I

97 (8va)

v. 

dwell, I dwell, I

(8va)

100

v. 

dwell, and now like a rogue in the wide world I dwell.

(8va)

104

7 A carrot Pesante

ff

Stiff stan - ding in the bed, First it's white,

109

ff


then it's red. There's not a la - dy in the land

113

That would not take it in her hand.

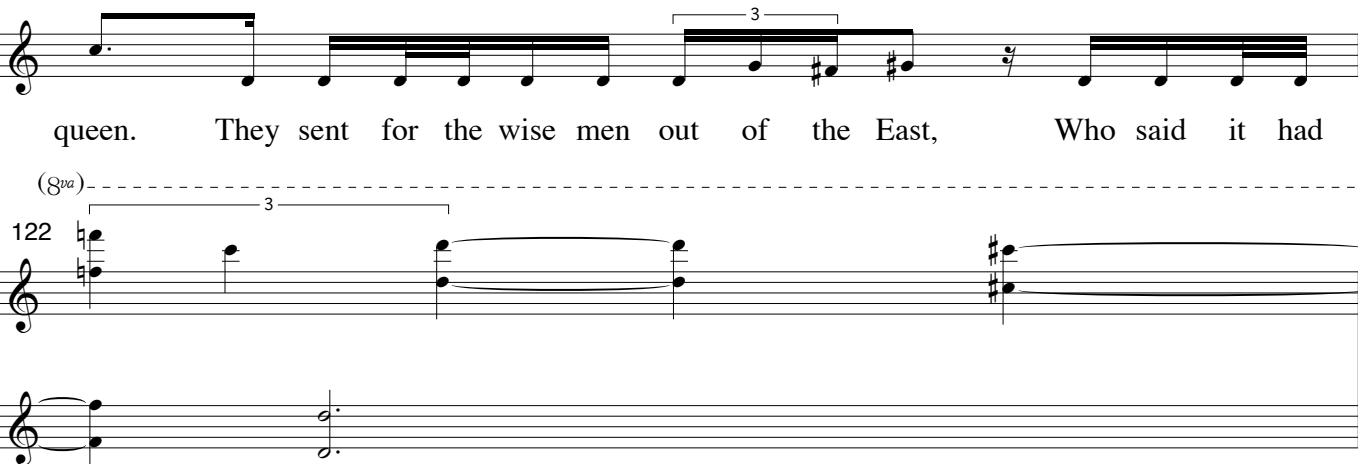
117

8 A holly tree *molto lento*

v. 

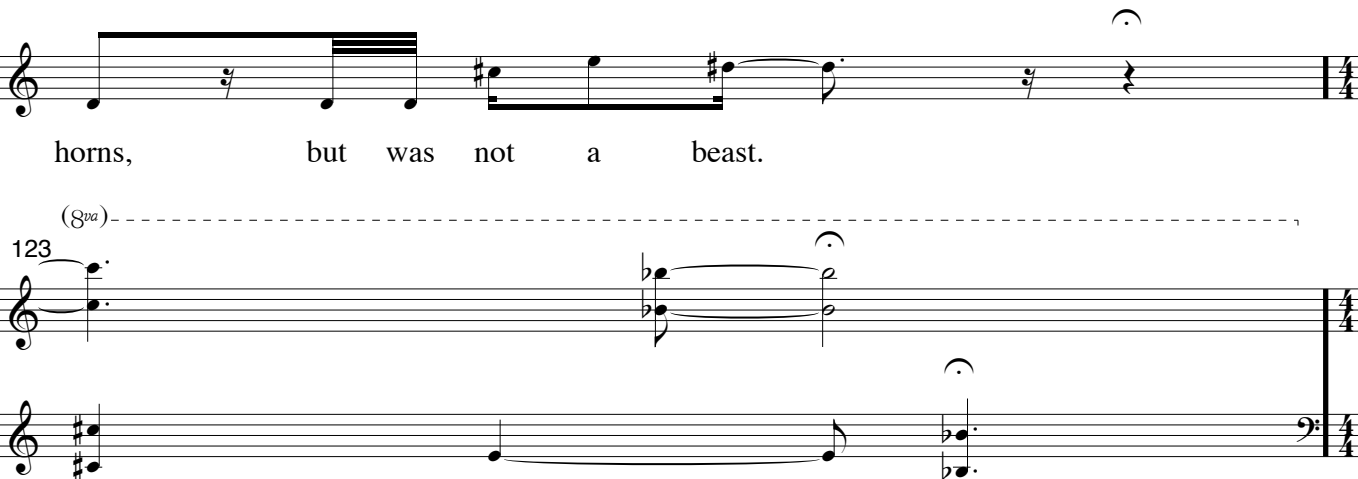
I-tum pa-ra-di-sum all clothed in green, The king could not read it, no more could the

120 *pp*

v. 

queen. They sent for the wise men out of the East, Who said it had

122

v. 

horns, but was not a beast.

123

9 A peal of bells Allegro

I saw five birds all in a cage, Each bird had but a sin-gle wing,

124

They were an hun-dred years of age, And yet did fly and sweet -ly sing.

130

The won - der did

136

my mind pos-sess, When I be-held their age and strength.

144

v.

Be-sides as near as I can guess, Their tails were thir-ty feet in length.

150

This system contains measures 145 to 154. The vocal line (V.) begins with a vocal entry on measure 145, marked with a 'v.'. The lyrics 'Be-sides as near as I can guess, Their tails were thir-ty feet in length.' are written under the vocal line. The piano accompaniment (P.) starts on measure 145 with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bass line is in the left hand. Measure numbers 150 and 151 are indicated at the start of their respective measures.

v.

155

This system contains measures 155 to 164. The vocal line (V.) continues with a vocal entry on measure 155, marked with a 'v.'. The piano accompaniment (P.) continues in the same key signature and time signature. Measure numbers 155 and 156 are indicated at the start of their respective measures. The system ends with a double bar line on measure 164.

10 A walnut *rubato*

158 *dolce* *p*

I am with - in as white as snow,

With - - - out as green as herbs that grow.

163

I am high - - - er than a house, And yet

168

les - - - ser than a mouse.

173